

Series I  
Correspondence,  
1932-1973

Box 6, Folder 14

July 6, 1954 -  
September 22, 1954

0372

ADMIRAL H. KENT HEWITT, U.S. NAVY, RET.

FORETOP

ORWELL, VERMONT.

Porter Hospital,  
Middlebury, Vt.  
July 6, 1954

Dear Bates :-

Your nice letter of April 28 did not reach me until my return home on June 1. (Due to my movements, I'd held up forwarding mail after May 1). Before I had a chance to answer it, I got carted off to the hospital in an ambulance - virus pneumonia. I know I was pretty sick, because I am still here and am only gradually regaining my strength. They didn't dare try to get me to a naval hospital. Hope to get away from here, however, during the week.

You are kind to want me to look over your "Lyle Gulf".

0373

and I should be much interested in doing it, if you have not long ago given up on me. I expect I am going to have to be pretty quiet and have a lot of time for reading for some time to come.

As to my friend "Fuzzy" Thubald's book, I feel, as Morison said, that it proves nothing and is most unfortunate. It will be used as propaganda by those of our enemies who would claim (as many of the Japs themselves) that we forced Japan into the war.

And as a minor comment - I hardly like the inference that my investigation was "biased", or that I was lead around by the nose by civilian counsel. Still does he know of my efforts to be fair all around. - Or how fond I was, and am, of Admiral Kimmel.

Sincerely (but harshly) yours  
H. Kent Hewitt.

0374



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

*Personal*

IN REPLY REFER TO  
Pers-B41-rr  
9027  
7 July 1954

From: Chief of Naval Personnel

To: Commodore Richard W. BATES, USN (Ret)  
Head, World War II Battle Evaluation Group  
Naval War College  
Newport, Rhode Island

Subj: Awards; information concerning

Ref: (a) Ur ltr of 2 July 1954 addressed to LCDR SMITH

Encl: (1) Four (4) medals and one (1) clasp

1. As requested by reference (a), the following awards are enclosed:

American Defense Service Medal with "Fleet" clasp  
American Campaign Medal  
Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal  
World War II Victory Medal

2. The records of the Bureau show that the above medals have previously been issued to you.

3. The National Defense Service Medal will not be available until a later date at which time wide publicity will be promulgated concerning the method for its procurement. No medal is authorized for the Navy Unit Commendation or Philippine Liberation Ribbon.

4. In accordance with existing laws and regulations, the Bureau is without authority to issue more than one decoration unless lost, destroyed, or rendered unfit for use, without fault or neglect on the part of the person to whom it was awarded. Therefore, it is regretted that a duplicate Navy Cross and Legion of Merit may not be issued to you.

*D. C. Hamberger*  
D. C. HAMBERGER  
By direction

0375

Pro.

J. JOSEPH SULLIVAN  
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW  
ONE ELEVEN SUTTER STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIFORNIA  
TELEPHONE YUKON 6-5131

August 6, 1954

VIA AIR MAIL

Rear Admiral Richard Bates USN  
Naval War College  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

Enclosed are two clippings that you may  
desire to post in your scrapbook. Coincidentally,  
they arranged to have the Admiral on the reverse  
side of the ad!

With kind personal regards.

Respectfully,



J. JOSEPH SULLIVAN

JJS:tt

Encls.

Was good to see you - soon  
for a short while.  
P

0376

## SUSAN SMITH SAYS:

## Passing Parade of Summer Visitors

**M**ONDAY LUNCH at the St. Francis was like a three ring circus. At our table, which was the first one on the left on entering the room, one sees everyone and is seen by all who enter. At times this is most satisfactory, if you wish to speak with some special person lunching there. At other times, it is a detriment; as on Monday, when there were so many questions I wished to ask, and hear answers from my guests.

We were four: One was Maria Antonia Field, who has been spending several weeks in San Francisco from her ranch in Monterey County, and who recently issued her memoirs "Where Castilian Roses Bloom" in a private printing. This distinguished lady was honored by the late King Alfonso XIII of Spain with the Royal Order of Isabella the Catholic. Her career in California has been a notable one. Her charities are boundless.

In intimate conversation she is an interesting contributor to the telling of incidents or episodes of our State. When one of our table companions spoke

ey, as he is known to his friends, visits the west yearly, as his family are Californians. He, himself, is connected with the Naval War College in Newport, R. I., where he is writing the Critical Analysis of Major Naval Battles of World War II. It will require seven volumes to complete this analysis, of which to date, more than half have been written.

From the eastern shores were the Robert Strawbridges, in town for only a day. He had been to the Grove and with his wife is now en route for a holiday in Wyoming.

"Bobby" Strawbridge is one of the top polo players of our country and his handsome and stately wife is a sister of Mrs Crawford Hill. Mrs. Hill, with her husband, spent several years in San Francisco during World War II, when Crawford was serving in our Navy.

Several years ago the Hill leased a house in San Mateo and became one of the most popular couples from the East. Of late Crawford has been hospitalized for weeks in New York, but now is recuperating in the Hills' Newport house.

of the speech of the Bohemian Grove, Miss Field said that her father, Thomas J. Field, had accompanied Mr. Hoover to Salinas for his marriage license to wed Henry, and that Lou's father, Mr. Henry, was cashier of the old Bank of Monterey, which Mr. Field was presi-

**ANOTHER OF MY** guests was the beautiful Micheline Beatty, who was bursting with happiness and the news that her father, the Vicomte d'Echau, is arriving in San Francisco from Paris on Friday, in time for the wedding of his son, Juan Sanz to Suzanne Te Roller. The ceremony will take place on Monday the ninth at the Church of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The grandparents of Micheline and Juan, John C. Gebrian and Josephine de Laveaga, were the first couple married in this church.

The Vicomtesse d'Echau, who lived her youth in San Francisco, is already here from visiting her daughter and son-in-law, and spending charmed hours with her tiny grandson.

Only relatives will attend the religious ceremony, save for Paul Miller, who will serve as best man. Following the honeymoon, Juan and his bride will return to San Francisco for several days, when a reception will be given them before they depart for New York.

**GUEST** number three was Rear Admiral Richard Bates (ret.), who arrived from Newport in time to attend the Bohemian Grove festivities. Dick-

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1212. 6<sup>th</sup> St.  
Coronado, Calif  
Aug. 16, 1954

Dear Admiral Bates,

The Lindmans reporting, sir!  
we arrived in Coronado the 23rd of July  
after a long trip across country (I'm  
sure the 3 youngsters made it seem twice  
as long.)

after leaving <sup>Newport</sup> Coronado we visited  
my sister in Wilmington for a day or so  
and then off to Annapolis to visit my  
folks. We arrived the day the last of  
the six girls in the family was married.  
(to an Ensign class of '53.) Stan says it  
sure makes him feel old to have one  
brother - in - law out of 46 A and one out  
of '53.

From Annapolis we went to  
Detroit. Amazing <sup>as</sup> it may sound the  
weather in Detroit was most  
pleasant, sleeping under blankets at night!

Next stop on our journey was  
in Champaign, Ill. It was terrifically  
hot. As a matter of fact one day was  
the hottest it had been in 18 yrs.

We left Ill. and after 3 days  
arrived in Idaho Falls, Idaho to visit

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my sister (husband is stationed in Aie.)  
Although they ultimately know it will  
be good duty on the "Haitians" they find  
it most unpleasant now.

We arrived in Coronado and  
immediately started house hunting.  
Discovered that rents were very high  
and not too many available. Coronado  
is amazingly active these days. We  
finally located a lovely 3 bedroom -  
2 bath house which will be available  
around 10th of Sept. so we're still  
not settled. However we were  
very fortunate in finding a completely  
furnished home available until we  
move to our place.

Stan takes his new job and  
he will write to you as soon as he  
finds time. He reported in 2 days  
before the ship left and after he  
had taken over (1 day) the commanding  
officer went on a 2 day emergency  
leave so as you will know he is  
busy. The Squadron has a total  
complement of approx 170 officers but  
now has 125. We were quite surprised  
at the size.

0380

Incidentally, I intended to call you and say good-bye before we left Newport but it was lunch time before I finally got around to it and then realized you would be at lunch. - so please forgive.

I would like to thank you for the pleasant tour of duty Stan had. He really enjoyed it and I'm sure he would enjoy working with you again.

I have 3 pint sized Shindmans to bathe and a little household to do so will say so-long.

on your next trip to Calif we will be most pleased to have you come down Coronado way and spend a few days with us.

Our address after 10<sup>th</sup> Sept. will be 175 "H" St, Coronado 18, Calif.

Understand correct mailing address for the Squadron is now

VC-11

NAS Coronado

San Diego, B. Calif

instead of Ft. P.O. San Francisco

Affectionately  
The Shindmans

GOVERNOR DENNIS J. ROBERTS  
*Honorary Chairman*

MAYOR JOHN J. SULLIVAN  
*Honorary Chairman*

CITY MANAGER WILLIAM A. GILDEA  
*Honorary Chairman*

# 1954 NEWPORT MUSIC FESTIVAL

*(Sponsored by the Newport Music Club)*

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MRS. WILLIAM H. HONNEN, *Chairman*  
REMUS TZINCOCA, *Music Director*  
MISS CECILE B. O'MARR, *Executive Secretary*

*Finance Committee:*  
G. LAUDER GREENWAY, *Chairman*

JAMES M. BECK  
EDWARD J. CORCORAN  
THE HON. FLORENCE K. MURRAY  
CAPTAIN JOHN B. ROONEY, U. S. N.  
MISS AGNES SULLIVAN

*Headquarters:*  
NEWPORT CASINO  
Bellevue Avenue  
Newport, Rhode Island  
Telephone 3300

*Patrons and Patronesses:*

MR. AND MRS. HUGH D. AUCHINCLOSS  
MR. SAMUEL L. M. BARLOW  
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MRS. MELLON BRUCE  
MISS VIRGINIA CARTER  
MRS. GUY FAIRFAX CARY  
COUNTESS CITTADINI  
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MR. AND MRS. JAMES H. VAN ALLEN  
MR. AND MRS. GEORGE HENRY WARREN  
MR. AND MRS. SHELDON WHITEHOUSE  
MR. AND MRS. ROBERT R. YOUNG

August 19, 1954

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates  
12 Mt. Vernon Street  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

It gives me great pleasure to send  
you two press tickets for the Newport Music  
Festival.

I do hope that you can make use of  
them.

Cordially

*Cecile B. O'Marr*  
Executive Secretary

0382

HOWARD B. SPRAGUE, M. D.  
1180 BEACON STREET  
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

August 23, 1954

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, USN  
Naval War College  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral:

I enjoyed seeing the color photograph of you in a recent issue of Holliday. You appeared to be having a good time, and I wondered which Naval battle you were investigating.

From the picture, it looked as if your color was good and as if you were smoking a cigar. I hope you are well.

Cordially yours,

*Howard B. Sprague*

HBS:GB

Signed by the secretary  
in Dr. Sprague's absence.

0383

REED & BARTON  
*Silversmiths*  
FOUNDED 1824

GENERAL OFFICES AND WORKS • TAUNTON, MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

September 8th, 1954

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates  
U. S. Naval War College  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral:

Both my secretary and I were pleased to get your letter of September 2nd ordering two more wedding presents.

These have been put in the works and will be sent out immediately.

I was glad to hear that you had no trouble during the hurricane in Newport. We were on an Island in Cataumet Harbor and lost the good portion of the house we were renting. It really made us feel as though we were at sea once again but now all is straightened out and we are back in full swing.

With best regards.

Sincerely,

  
Roger H. Hallowell

RHH:MRT

0384

FLEET LOGISTIC AIR WING, ATLANTIC/CONTINENTAL  
AIR TRANSPORT SQUADRON TWENTY-FOUR  
Navy 214, Fleet Post Office  
New York, New York

Serial:

8 September 1954

Admiral Richard W. Bates, USN(Ret)  
Naval War College  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

I am pleased to see from your congratulatory letter that you are still keeping abreast of other items besides those pertaining to your shop and are alert to read the ALNAV's, inasmuch as your very nice letter arrived here in Port Lyautey almost as soon as the selection ALNAV itself.

I am happy Paul Hartman and myself are upholding the fame and reputation of the World War II Battle Evaluation Group to train and qualify officers for promotion and higher command. I consider Paul Hartman's feat one of especial significance since he is one of eleven officers that were selected outside of the promotion zone, including Tom Davies of "Truculent Turtle" and B-36 Controversy fame. His feat is even more significant in view of the catapult explosion aboard the Leyte during the period that he was the Executive Officer, and his selection is valid proof that the explosion occurred through circumstances beyond his responsibility and control.

As for myself, Nellie and Alfred II, we are all doing fine, and are extremely happy in Port Lyautey. Nellie and I will be leaving separately on trips this month. I depart for Patuxent River September 9th via Naples and London, and will be there for a few days of conferences in connection with Air Transport matters in the ELM area, returning with COMFLOGWINGLANT and Chief of Staff, COMAIRLANT for Port Lyautey about September 20th for more conferences here, Naples and London. Nellie leaves Port Lyautey September 18th with the Executive Officer's wife for a tour of North Africa and Europe, via French Morocco, Algiers, Tunisia, Sicily, Italy, France, Switzerland, Germany, England, returning in about a month via Spain. Meanwhile, Alfred II will remain Port Lyautey with a nursemaid.

From the above you can see that duty in this area does have its advantages which we are exploiting to the fullest extent, because we are of the firm opinion that a tour of duty like this might come only once during a naval officer's career.

I hope that the officer who has taken my old job in your office has found my records and relief folder in order and of some assistance; if I can provide any further assistance, do not hesitate to let me know.

0385

8 September 1954

I understand that you were planning to take some leave to the West Coast in July. I hope that your plans materialized and that you had an enjoyable leave.

I notice by the Washington Post and Times Herald that Walter Karig has been chosen as the Book Editor for that paper. A clipping of the article is enclosed. I also read in the newspaper that the famed Newport Casino was damaged by the recent hurricane that swept north along the East Coast. In this connection, both Nellie and I recall your extreme thoughtfulness in allowing us to occupy your box for the tennis matches last summer. I hope that the damage was not as tragic as the newspapers claimed.

Nellie and I wish you the best of health and kindest regards.

Most respectfully,

*Cdr Bowker*

P.S. If you find that you can spare one of the portraits that I asked about just prior to my departure, both Nellie and I would appreciate it very much, since we both have fond memories of our pleasant association with you and hold you very much in esteem and respect.

0386



VICE ADMIRAL JAMES FIFE, U. S. N.  
8 September 1954

My dear Rafe:

It was certainly thoughtful of you to take pen in hand and write your very nice letter of 31 August. I appreciate your news regarding Admiral Nimitz and look forward to seeing them myself very briefly the end of the month. Chester Junior has just left Malta after spending the last ten days with me. He is in fine fettle and full of beans.

I should have read your latest on Leyte Gulf but must confess that I have not tackled it as yet. I have the copy you sent me but will hold it until I have sufficient leisure to properly digest it. Also, I thought I would await the next volume and go over the two together. I presume you will raise the question as to why a submarine was not in San Bernardino in due course.

Having been over here 18 months (which I consider quite sufficient), although I have enjoyed it immensely, I feel that my purpose has been accomplished and that my tour will soon terminate. CNO has indicated that he wants to see me and I will leave Malta on 17 September and arrive Washington on the 19th after seeing Bill Fechteler in Naples. I will finish my business in the Pentagon during that week and fly to San Francisco on the 27th. I will return to the East Coast on 12 October and my present intention is to go to Connecticut on the 15th and stay until 19 October. I will fly back to London from Patuxent on the 21st. Possibly I can get over to see you and Admiral McCormick very briefly sometime while I am in New England. I have no information on what my next assignment may be. With every good wish.

Most sincerely yours,

Commodore Richard W. Bates, U.S.N.,  
U.S. Naval War College,  
Newport, Rhode Island.

0387





NATIONAL NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER  
BETHESDA, MARYLAND

Sept 9, 1954

Dear Rafe:

apparently you failed to get the letter I wrote you shortly after my return to Orville, in fact, I think (about June 3) first before I was taken ill. I'd been wondering why I hadn't heard from you, and thought you must have been on a long leave.

In it, I said I'd be glad and interested to look over your Volume II, and to send it along whenever you were ready. That was before I knew I was to wind up here.

0388

Now my plans are a bit  
indefinite, and I don't  
know when to tell you to  
send it. I'm coming  
along fine now, but I  
still haven't my strength  
back, and they are keeping  
me around here for rest  
and for x-rays and further  
checks. It is probable that,  
when they let me, we'll  
go back to Drivell for a  
couple of weeks to close the  
house for the winter and  
return to this area. They  
apparently will want me  
in this vicinity for  
monthly checkups throughout  
the winter.

Haven't had any fun  
this summer. I picked up  
a deep cough in May in

0389

Fluence, and still had it when I reached home May 30. On June 11th, I rode an ambulance to the Middlebury Hospital with a temperature of  $103^{\circ}$ , and spent about four days in an oxygen tent - virus pneumonia - three nurses and what have you. My doctor said I was lucky to come through it.

after four weeks in that hospital, I was allowed home to convalesce, but just had to lie around. Then I had two relapses.

after the second, they decided that I needed the help of a thoroughly equipped hospital to get well. So, on Aug 16, the Navy kindly flew

glad our phone operator gave you the date. Nothing like a little coming exchange.

me down here, where they have put me through a course of sprouts. After having one lung drained, I lost my cough, and my fever - and, here I am, just back from the movies.

I regret the delay in seeing your Vol II, but I don't know just when to tell you to send it now, because I am going to be moving around a bit. I tell you what - if you want me to get at it as soon as possible and it isn't too voluminous, you might send it to my son-in-law, Comdr Gerald S. Norton, 5108 First St N, Arlington, Va.

We have been anxious to hear just what happened to Newport from hurricane Carroll - but no one has told us yet.

Sorry about Admiral Kalbfus. I read it in the N.Y. paper.

Best regards from us both,

Sincerely,

Kent Hewitt

0391

FLEET ADMIRAL CHESTER W. NIMITZ, U. S. NAVY  
728 SANTA BARBARA ROAD  
BERKELEY 7, CALIFORNIA

Sunday  
12 Sept 1954.

Dear Bates:-

I thank you very much for your two letters of 10 August and 7 September - both of which I shall attempt to answer now. I am very sorry to hear of Admiral Kalbfus' death - and I enclose a note of sympathy to Mrs. Kalbfus - which I request you to read and forward after you read it to her. Mrs. Nimitz was a good friend of mine. Mrs. Nimitz and I are always glad to see you whenever you are in our vicinity - which I hope will be often. The "date" is - Battle for Leyte Gulf which I mentioned to you <sup>last</sup>.

0392

simply a statement from various sources  
about the famous message - "Where is  
T.F. 34?" I will look it over  
some more and then let you read  
it - and return it to me.

Best wishes and warmest  
regards to you & to the McCorricks  
who are among our very favorites

Sincerely —

C. W. Nimsy —

C  
O  
P  
Y

EDWARD I. FARLEY  
70 Pine Street  
New York 5, N. Y.

September 20, 1954

The Secretary of the Navy  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I spent five and a half years on active duty in motor torpedo boats in World War II as a Naval Reserve officer. I am very much disturbed that our PT program today is virtually defunct with the exception of a few boats which are not ready for combat.

It is my impression that the PTs in World War II made distinct and important contributions to victory. Has not the Navy said, in effect, to Air Force enthusiasts, who believe that airplanes and hydrogen bombs are all we need in the next war, "No, we must have many types of weapons and be prepared to fight any conceivable type of warfare including conventional World War II types. We must not put all our eggs in one basket."? Is not, therefore, the Navy's position with regard to PTs inconsistent with its stated policy?

Does not the PT still possess unique tactical advantages for employment in coastal and inter-island waters such as those in many of the world's trouble spots today, such as Formosa? I recall how advantageously our PTs were concealed, dispersed, maintained, and operated in forward areas in the Southwest Pacific on missions that larger craft could not perform. A review of the facts would reveal that there was probably no other type of surface craft more continuously in direct combat with the enemy than the motor torpedo boats. Has their usefulness been changed by any transformation in the character of warfare we face today?

Is it true that at least 100 PTs could be constructed for the approximate cost of one aircraft carrier? A battleship might be destroyed by one nuclear explosion whereas the equivalent investment in PTs, properly dispersed, would not be nearly so vulnerable. Although this argument might be debated at some length, does it not illustrate the fundamental need for all kinds of vessels, and, if so, what have we today to do the PT's job?

The PT type was developed to a high degree of combat efficiency in World War II only after several years of intensive and costly experimentation and effort. It would seem most unfortunate to lose all we gained in that effort, especially when an effective, ready, combat PT force might again render great services in just such possible conflicts as we face today.

0394

(2)

I was in Pearl Harbor in command of the PT 20 when the Japs attacked us there on December 7, 1941. It took us almost two years after that date to build a PT fleet and train personnel for that fleet. If World War III comes, I know you will agree that, while we may have time to top off our military needs, we will never again be permitted the amount of time we had in the last war to build up our strength.

Although my status in the Naval Reserve since the war has been an inactive one, I am sincerely interested in the Navy, its affairs and fortunes. I would greatly appreciate any word of enlightenment you may care to give me on why, in view of the history of accomplishment of these vessels, we have today no PT program. Incidentally, I am President of Peter Tare, Inc., a non-profit social organization whose membership is comprised of several hundred Naval Reserve officers who served in motor torpedo boats, and I know they also would be glad to receive from me word of any remarks you may care to make.

Respectfully,

0395





DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO  
Op-533DL/cje  
21 Sept 1954

Admiral R. W. Bates, USN  
Naval War College  
Newport, R. I.

Dear Admiral Bates:

It was a great pleasure meeting the man who is so largely responsible for introducing the polar front theory into the United States.

The latest address I have for Professor Rossby is as follows:

Professor C.-G. Rossby  
Institut for Meteorologi  
Stockholms hogskola  
Lindhagensgatan 124<sup>V</sup>  
Stockholm K, Sweden

I believe that correspondence addressed there will reach him.

Very respectfully,

*Florence van Straten*

F. W. VAN STRATEN

0396

22 Sept. '54

FARMINGTON  
CONNECTICUT  
FARMINGTON 7-2140

Dear Dick,

I was sorry not to  
see you again before we  
left last Friday.

Sumner Burr & I  
would be very pleased if  
you came up here for a  
week - and later in the fall.  
We <sup>sum</sup> ~~planned~~ to be booked  
up until the middle of  
November, but if you  
could come later  
than that we'd be obligated

0397

I have you - this place to  
be here until the first of  
March.

For me,

- Wilmarth

WILMARTH

LEWIS

#E

0398